

a second step of applying in said amount onto said pixel area an ink material of another color for forming said secondary color in combination with said certain color, after the application of the ink material of said certain color; and

a third step of applying the ink material of said certain color in said amount onto said pixel area, after the application of the ink material of said another color,

wherein the ink materials are applied onto the pixel area for expressing thereon the secondary color so that dots of the secondary color may be formed at plural positions of the pixel area with making different the orders of application of the ink materials of plural colors for forming the secondary color, said pixel area for expressing thereon the secondary color being one of said pixel areas formed on the print medium.

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application, of which Claims 1, 19, 20, 22, and 25 are in independent form.

First, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claims 1-19 and 22-26 and the indication that Claims 21 and 27 include allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. Claims 21 and 27 have not been so rewritten at this time because, for the reasons described below, Applicants traverse the continued rejection of base Claim 20 from which Claims 21 and 27 depend.

Applicants request that the Office Action dated December 12, 2002 be withdrawn since the three-month suspension of action requested in the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) has not expired. Applicants note that the RCE was submitted in this case on November 1, 2002 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(a). The RCE requested the three-month suspension of action and included the \$130.00 fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). Accordingly, Applicants have duly complied with the